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NSL's 2nd division plan is formula for trouble

The NSL's proposal for a second division in 1985 would plunge the clubs even further towards financial ruin.

The proposal, to be voted on by all clubs in September, is:

- For 1985: A northern region including the two Brisbane clubs;
- A southern region including Canberra Arrows and one other club, as yet unchosen, currently playing in the north;
- In 1986: The top six from each region to form a 12-club NSL first division.

The remainder to be joined by eight other clubs from various State Leagues, and then split into two regional Second Divisions of 10 teams each.

Let's see what this would mean according to NSL standings before last weekend's round.

The First Division, on those standings, would comprise: Sydney Hellenes, ARIA, Sydney Olympic, Marconi, Melita Eagles, Penrith, Hillsborough, SM-Hellies, Melbourne Croatia, B. U. Juventus, Brisbane Lions, and Green Gully.

OK, that's reasonable.

The problem rests with the second division.

The teams left after the top six have been removed from each Conference are:

St George Budapest, Blacktown, Sydney Croatia, Canberra Arrows, Newcastle-Rosebud, Wollongong, Brisbane City, Preston-Makedonia, Footscray J.U.S.T., West Adelaide Hellas, Adelaide City Juventus and Sunshine-George Cross.

We have to remove George Cross and Sydney Croatia, however, as under present rules, the bottom-placed NSW and Victorian clubs will be relegated at the end of this season.

For the purpose of this exercise, let's replace them with the current State League leaders, Morwell Falcons (Victoria) and Inter-Monaro (NSW).

At that point the number of clubs to the desired 20, let's then add eight more, namely according to standings on their ladders before last weekend. These clubs would be: Rockdale Ilden, Manly Warringah, Sutherland Shire, Auburn-Uruguay, Fawkner, Polonia, Box Hill and Western Suburbs. This selection presumes, of course, that additional clubs from South Australia, or Queensland would not be invited.

Now we have to divide these 20 into geographical regions where interstate travelling would be minimised or, preferably, removed altogether.

Here goes:

SECOND DIVISION 'NORTH': St George Budapest, Blacktown, Newcastle-Rosebud, Wollongong, Brisbane City, Rockdale-Ilden, Manly-Warringah, Sutherland Shire, Auburn-Uruguay, Inter-Monaro.

SECOND DIVISION 'SOUTH': Preston-Makedonia, Footscray J.U.S.T., West Adelaide Hellas, Adelaide City Juventus, Morwell Falcon, Fawkner, Polonia, Box Hill, Western Suburbs, Canberra Arrows.

It is fair to assume that the second division would be regarded of secondary importance and thus crowds would be low.

At the same time, the Sydney teams would have to travel to Brisbane and Canberra; Brisbane would have to travel to Canberra, Wollongong and Newcastle; Melbourne teams would have to travel to Adelaide and vice-versa, and, in our example, to Canberra as well — all for minimal return at the gate.



LAURIE SCHWAB

The whole plan could collapse, of course, if the NSW and Victorian State Federation blocked it at ASF level to prevent even more clubs leaving the State Leagues. Or would there be another toe-toe confrontation; another threatened breakaway?

And would eight State League clubs really want to play in an NSL second division in which their affiliation fees would skyrocket without the prospect of a return at the gate?

While these are all long-term considerations, as the Second Division wouldn't start until 1986, the planned format for 1985 has faults of its own.

Obviously, the NSL hopes that Inter-Monaro, of Queenstown, wins the NSW State League, for both Canberra and Inter-Monaro then could be shuffled off to the southern region, allowing both Brisbane clubs to join the northern region.

If, however, Rockdale Ilden wins the NSW State League, then which club would be pushed down south? Wollongong? Newcastle-Rosebud? Rockdale?

Geographically, that would make as much sense as the Brisbane club playing in the south.

Now let's speculate — wildly, to be sure — about the way the 1985 competition will finish.

So, for example, if the top six of each conference were to look like this:

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE: Sydney Hakosh, Penrith, St George Budapest, Blacktown, Newcastle-Rosebud, Canberra Arrows.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Green Gully, Brisbane Lions, Footscray J.U.S.T., Morwell Falcons, West Adelaide Hellas, Adelaide City Juventus.

Those 12 then, would form the National League in 1986 — and what a financial bonanza that would be!

And what happens to promotion and relegation at the end of 1985? If eight clubs are to be added anyway at the end of that year, the figure would be raised to 10, or even 12, if the present promotion and relegation system carries over to the end of next year.

That's hardly feasible, so relegation obviously would not apply at the end of 1985, although it does apply this year, which is hardly fair. The relegation-threatened clubs have had enough to contend with. Just consider the fact that Sunshine-George Cross, now the No. 1 candidate for relegation from the National Conference, has had to do it twice, and Newcastle, both struggling but neither able to, to be relegated!

The league has made more mistakes since its formation than possibly could be remembered even by the most astute student of folly. Let's not have more mistakes which have to be rectified again the following year.

The well-being of all the NSL clubs must be ensured and if the main criterion for change is a geographical one, then relocate the Brisbane clubs in the north, bring four new clubs into the south, and be done with it! Otherwise go back to state-based leagues. I believe that's inevitable in the long run, anyway.

Meet Steve Smith the goal machine



Steve Smith of Victorian State League club Box Hill, scores his 19th goal of the season (above), but the Hillmen lost the match 2-3 to Frankston Pines. Smith, pictured at left with his marker, John Cullen (left), is the top scorer in the State League and also has a seven-vote lead in the "Soccer Action" — Schipano Home Furnishers \$1000 Player of the Year competition.

DAY OF SHAME



Fans invade the Olympic Sports Field in Adelaide and surround referee Tony Merrell during Adelaide City Juventus' 3-2 victory over West Adelaide Hellas last Sunday. The players pictured are Graham Honeyman of WA-Hellas and Bugsey Nyskohus of AC-Juventus (No. 3). See page five for a full report on Adelaide's day of shame. Picture by FRANK HOBBS.

FRANCE 2 BRAZIL 0

Olympic soccer draws 1.42 mil.

From LAWRIE MIFFLIN

PASADENA, Calif. — The stirring strains of "The Marsailaise" rang out over a Rose Bowl packed with 101,799 people last Saturday night, as France won the Olympic gold medal in soccer. The French defeated Brazil 2-0.

The crowd, the largest to see a soccer game in the United States or Canada, brought the total attendance at soccer in these Olympics to 1,421,627 for 32 games — an average of 44,426 a game.

Saturday night's spectators, as noisy as they were numerous, saw a full moon rise over the picturesque stadium during the game, and fireworks explode over it afterward. Oddly, while the fireworks blasted, the crowd took up a chant "USA, USA."

But the American team had been eliminated in the preliminary round. Brazil, with five straight wins before Saturday night, and France, with three wins and two draws, had proved themselves the class of the competition, and because both are known as skillful, offensive teams fond of a wide open style, a lively final match was anticipated.

Continued page 14

Yugoslavia

• Striker Stjepan Deveric grabbed a last-gasp winner as Yugoslavia hit back to beat Italy 2-1 and win the bronze medal in the Olympic soccer tournament.

Deveric struck nine minutes from time to pull a pass from Miroslav Bascic, past goalkeeper Franco Tancredi, and secure Yugoslavia's first soccer medal for 24 years.

Yugoslavia, gold medallist at the 1960 Rome Games, had three players absent through suspension including Borislav Cvetkovic, the tournament's leading scorer before this game.

• QUARTER FINALS: Brazil 1 Canada 1 — Brazil won 4-2 on penalties; Yugoslavia 5 West German 2; Italy 1 Chile 0; France 2 Egypt 0.

• SEMI-FINALS: Brazil 2 Italy 1; France 4 Yugoslavia 2 after extra time.

PUBLICITY FOR ALL

"Soccer Action" invites clubs to send in comprehensive details of their matches.

Our details sections (on the NSL, Victorian and NSW State Leagues) are widely read and we invite your club to fill in the coupon below and send it to us at Newspress, 603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3001. But take note: THESE COUPONS MUST REACH US BEFORE 1 PM on MONDAYS, OTHERWISE THEY CANNOT BE PUBLISHED.

It also is imperative that you send us match details covering both clubs, not just your own club. The coupon below outlines the information we require: Names of teams, score, scorers and times of goals, team line-ups with ratings out of 10, substitutions and times of substitutions, and send offs and times of send offs if they occur. Remember, you MUST send us details covering both teams.

SCORELINE

(With names of teams, score, scorers and times of goals in brackets after each team's name):

LINE-UPS

(With both line-ups, ratings out of 10, substitutions and times, and send offs if required):

KAT'S CORNER

with PETER KATHOLOS



Hands up all those who are rapt in the coverage of Olympic soccer on television.

Come on, there must be someone I'm sure there must have been at least one comment about the soccer...

No, I didn't hear it either...

Incredible, isn't it?

They've shown every conceivable sport on the TV coverage, including volleyball and baseball, and horse-riding and hammer throwing.

Have you seen the way people flock to those sports here in Australia? You haven't?

You probably have seen crowds at the soccer though, haven't you?

And you are aware that Italian, Yugoslav and German people constitute quite a

large percentage of Australia's population.

Yet the Channel 10 Network didn't bother to show us the soccer, even though Italy, Yugoslavia and West Germany reached the quarter-finals (I'm writing this before the semi-finals).

No doubt we'll see a glimpse of the final, but that isn't enough by any means.

It appears anti-soccer bias is alive and well, and indeed, thriving, among the media moguls.

Are they still worried that coverage of soccer will threaten the well-being of their beloved Aussie Rules and Rugby League?

I heard that one TV commentator referred to soccer as a minority sport. Does he know that crowds at the soccer have been bigger than for any other individual sport? That the soccer has been beamed live to countries throughout Europe and South America; that Europeans and South Americans living here

in Australia have been dying to see some of the games?

And why are we shown volleyball, baseball, hammer-throwing, synchronised swimming, dressage, archery, and Greco-Roman wrestling? Are these not minority sports?

Croatia: hell of a team!

Melbourne Croatia always was a giant of Victorian soccer and now, after a settling-in period, they're starting a claim for the national championship.

Apart from Sydney Hakoah, Croatia is the only team to have beaten my club, Sydney Olympic, twice this year.

Croatia is playing attractive soccer, featuring a high level of skill, fast breaks,

good passing, and lots of cheekiness, which all help to bring back the fans.

And their home ground, Olympic Park, is of course the best soccer ground in Australia, which doesn't do their game any harm at all.

Josip Biskic, Jozo Antolovic and Tony Curcio, as well as up-and-coming striker Robert Markovic are the Croatia players who have impressed me the most.

David Brogan also is a talented player. Tony Curcio is extremely fast at the back and Peter Lewis is as strong as ever.

Yakka Banovic, the \$10,000 man, has been on the bench since being recruited from Derby County and the crowd is so strong that Jim Campbell hasn't been able to win back a permanent place yet.

Talk about depth!

And Hakoah's form hasn't been all that great recently. Before last weekend, they had won only one game in four weeks.

This is the time of year that players become a little bit stale, and lose a little bit of interest. Perhaps it's happening to Sydney Hakoah. I certainly hope so, for it would give Olympic another chance.

TACTICAL REVOLUTION IN EUROPEAN FINALS

MAKEDONIA

Potter	
McMillan	Dobson
Dunn	
Petrovski	Opasinis
Heys	Campbell
	Odzakov
Cole	Lucchesi

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Meier	
Dakos	Coady
Rogers	
Raskopoulos	Phillips
Patikas	Katholos
	Jennings
Soper	Theodorakopoulos

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

Laumets	
Yzendoorn	Russell
Blair	
Halford	Kalifatidis
Davidson	Crino
Brown	Murphy
	Egan

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH

Pezzano	
Robertson	Cant
O'Connor	
Rodrigues	Barnes
Watson	Murray
Kosmina	Lee

MARCONI

James	
Henderson	Mariani
Calderan	
Carter	Rizzotto
Jankovics	Mason
Lowe	Sharne
	Brown

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER

Oliver	
Yankos	Angele
Macleod	
McKie	Valentine
Selemidis	Petersen
Winn	Patterson

MELBOURNE CROATIA

Banovic	
Curcio	Lewis
Parton	
Antolovic	Deankovic
Biskic	Cumming
Markovac	Gojevic
	Brogan

APIA

Parkes	
Bertogna	Brown
Pullen	
Gray	Butler
Tredinnick	
DeCeglie	Morsello

Soccer's secondary to synchronised swimming

Can Hakoah hang on?

APIA has been playing consistently well all year, and if they beat Sydney Hakoah on Sunday, they could turn the tide in the Australian Conference.

If Hakoah wins, then surely that club will run away with the championship, but a victory to second-placed APIA will put even Olympic back into the race for the title.

And Hakoah's form hasn't been all that great recently. Before last weekend, they had won only one game in four weeks.

This is the time of year that players become a little bit stale, and lose a little bit of interest. Perhaps it's happening to Sydney Hakoah. I certainly hope so, for it would give Olympic another chance.

3-5-2 replaces 4-4-2

By LAURIE SCHWAB

A tactical revolution occurred during the European Championships in France. No fewer than six of the eight finalists employed a five-man midfield at one time or another.

This replaced the four-man midfield which had been the accepted norm in the past, and which is still prevalent in Australian soccer.

The two European finalists that did stick to a four-man midfield — West Germany and Belgium — looked the least impressive, despite the talent at their disposal.

The teams that used the five-man midfield did not augment the usual four with a defender given the freedom to move up. Instead, they went out to play from the kick-off with five recognised midfield players.

They reckoned that this net, strung across

the middle of the park, would improve their defensive efficiency by stopping opposing attacks further away from the danger zone.

France's middle-five were: Fernandez, Tigana, Girosse, Platini and Genghini.

The Yugoslav midfield: Gudelj, Sestic, D. Stojkovic, Vujovic, Bazdarevic.

Spain's midfield: Senor, Victor, J. Alberto, Gallego, Gordillo.

Denmark's: Arnsen, Sivebaek, Berthelsen, Berggren, Lerby.

Let's look (left) at some possibilities when the five-man midfield is used in the NSL.



Preston Makedonia — a team that has had problems coming up with the right midfield combination. From left, standing: Gordon Flavel, George McMillan, Ian Dobson, Steve Potter, Robbie Dunn, Gary Cole, Zarko Odzakov. Front: Zoran Iloski, Claude Lucchesi, George Campbell, Graham Heys, Ljube Petrovski, Con Opasinis.

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Midfielders Theo Selemidis (left) of Heidelberg-Alexander and Joe Watson of Sydney City Hakoah.



Michel Platini of France — from midfield, he was top scorer of the Euro finals.

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Craig Johnston



Eddie Krnacevic



Frank Arok

LES MURRAY

Australian soccer players don't have enough to aim for, said Frank Arok when asked to name the one big hurdle facing our soccer's development.

He elaborated, pointing out that because there's bigger money and glamor in Aussie Rules, Rugby League, tennis and cricket, far too small a proportion of budding Australian sportsmen are taken by soccer.

Given the modest financial rewards Australian clubs can, with any degree of subtlety, offer their players, this is a capital problem and one even our administrators are helpless at trying to overcome.

Arok is right. There is no way Australian soccer can hope to compete with the rewards of such opposition, offered to those who wish to carry professional sport beyond their teams.

Ironically, national coach Arok might not necessarily benefit from the one hope soccer has of shepherding young Aussie sportsmen toward the world game.

That, of course, is the prospect and the likely rewards of playing overseas.

Our Rugby League and Aussie Rules clubs have no hope of matching the financial rewards and the lifestyle offered by full-time professional soccer in Europe.

If you have seen the way professional footballers live in Europe, never mind their bank balances, you'd know what I mean.

Making a social call on Adrian Aiston when he was with modest Luton Town in England in the mid-70s, I was staggered by the near-pop star status Noddy and his colleagues were enjoying.

And that was in unrefined, conservative England, another world away from the all-consuming hysteria that surrounds soccer players in, say, Italy or Spain.

And then there is the money.

Rene Colusso, on his recent visit

Johnston, Krnacevic open up the world

home to Sydney, spoke of his transfer to third division Salernitana.

His likely earnings for the forthcoming Italian season should be around \$160,000, about \$40,000 up on his earnings the previous season.

In addition, he gets family accom-

mmodation in a rent-free house, part

and parcel of a standard deal for any

Italian professional.

Not bad, and it's hardly surprising that Colusso is not yet hankering for a return to the sunshine and green pastures of Australia.

My own view is in dead opposition to those who reckon that the talent drain of Australia is something we ought to try to curb by artificial means.

In fact I believe it's good for us and the more go, as far as I'm concerned, the merrier.

It is simple logic that if more Craig Johnston and Rene Colusso made it overseas, more teenage soccer

players from Australia would want to do the same.

And that means that more of those half a million juniors of ours would stay in soccer and not turn to League, Rules, surfing or snooker.

Indeed, you can argue that the talent drain can be of benefit to your national team, as it could well be in our case should our exported players be available for Frank Arok's preparations.

Soccer players tend to improve when they play in a league of a standard higher than their own. Our national team is probably oriented and cohesive. Danish national teams of the past couple of years for instance was composed almost entirely of expatriate Danes and I'm sure their coach, Sepp Piontek, had no complaints.

And no one could say Zico, Falcao,

Cerezo, Socrates, and therefore the Brazilian national team, won't benefit from whatever rubs off on those players during their stay in competitive Italy.

Australian club coaches, naturally, always will be displeased at the prospect of losing their players, lured away by the overseas dollar.

But then, if push overseas clubs do want these players, there must be something the local coaches are doing right.

Perhaps they can console themselves with that.

But, where the long-term benefits to Australia are concerned, there should be no opposition to our players wanting to set sail for the money and glamor of lands where full-time professionalism is possible.

It is the solitary thing of substance our players have to aim at. We should let them aim at it.

But once they do go, we should ensure they remain available for national team duty.

And when we should use them, as we now should try to use Colusso, David Mitchell and Eddie Krnacevic.

And yes, Craig Johnston whose so-called unavailability for the Australian team is but a myth.

Just ask him!

• Les Murray hosts Network 0-28's "Match of the Day" on Sundays, "On the Ball" on Mondays and Tuesdays, "World Soccer" on Saturdays and Fridays and "International Sports Magazine" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Young Vics do battle in Tassie



Ernie Tappai

Ernie Tappai of Melbourn, Victor Cristaldo of Keilor Austria, Kris Ketsakidis of Northcote and Sam Greco of Brunswick Juveniles are among the young stars selected by coach Bill Curran in the Victorian Combined Schools side.

The Vics leave for the national titles in Tasmania on Sunday, September 2.

They'll be up against sides representing Tasmania, Western Australia, NSW, the ACT and Queensland in a week long, round-robin tournament to decide the champion combined schools side of Australia.

Former Ardeer coach John Mason is team manager.

The Vic side is:

GOALKEEPERS: Slobodan Bozicovski (from Altona North Tech); Fotios Alexopoulos (St Albans High).

DEFENDERS: Tom Divic (Sandringham Tech); Sam Greco (Coburg High); Kris

Ketsakidis (Northcote High); Tom Zilic (Newlands High); Bill Piculovski (Lalor High).

MIDFIELDERS: Ernie Tappai (Caulfield High); Theo Kasmeris (Richmond High); Domenic Ruccio (Brunswick Tech); Victor Cristaldo (Flemington High).

FORWARDS: John Condilis (Ardeer High); Stan Taitos (Richmond High); Nick Gouliopoulos (Richmond High); Nasser Eminofski (Brunswick High); Cor Lagas (Keilor High).

IN BRIEF

Falcons may snub NSL

You don't hear about Branko Buljevic anymore. And that's a shame. Branko retired earlier this year and we hear that he's very downhearted about the Australian soccer scene. Pity, he's still fit. Needless to say, he's still got his great ball skills.

Speaking about names no longer in the news, whatever happened to Jim Adam?

Tim White says that he'll keep writing about the media for as long as the media keeps writing about coaches. He was talking in response to a newspaper article which suggested that he'd be better off sticking to coaching.

We hear that some prominent Morwell Falcons committee members aren't interested in the club going into the 1985 NSL should it win the Victorian State League championship. We understand that Falcons' first priority is to gain a full liquor licence and all the club's energies are being directed toward that end. If that's true, and for quite a few players leaving the Latrobe Valley club next season, Fawkner, Polonia and Box Hill will be praying that our sources are reliable.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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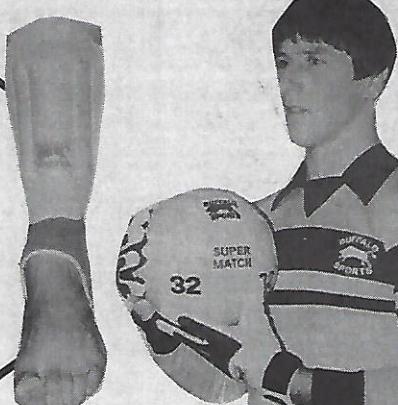


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Youth leagues

VICTORIAN YOUTH LEAGUE: Green Gully Footscray 1, Melb. Croatia 2 Heidelberg 1, St. George 2, Frankston George Cross 1, St. Melbourne 3, B.U. Juventus 0, Frankston Pines 2, Knox City 1, Nunawading 2, Morwell Falcons 4, STANDINGS

St. George Budapest regains David Ratcliffe as it continues its battle against relegation; Footscray J.U.S.T. and Canberra play each other twice in as many days; Macedonia, strengthened by Sean Lane from Derby County, presses on towards a place in the finals; George Cross aims to complete a double against SM-Hellas, and APIA gets the chance to open up the title race when it meets Sydney Hakoah in an engrossing round of matches at the weekend.

St. George is in the relegation berth in the Australian Conference, but with Ratcliffe back after suspension, and Dez Marton also back in the team after a long lay-off, the Saints should at least draw with in-form Newcastle-Rosebud, even though they have managed only three losses and two draws from their past five games.

Saints had hoped to regain striker Paul Wilkinson but the ASF has ruled that all clearances for this season terminated at the end of June. "We thought he would be eligible because he is our registered player and not a permanent foreigner," said St. George coach Frank Arkos. "But we did clear him to play amateur football in England. That was our downfall."

J.U.S.T. will be at full strength for its postponed match against Canberra in Canberra on Saturday, and again at Schinler Reserve on Sunday, but Canberra may still have problems. Although Marko Perovic should be back after injury, Frank Farina and Ian Gibson still may be hampered by injuries.

J.U.S.T. has a lot more experience than Canberra, which may have to rely heavily on goalkeeper Tony Franken. Brian O'Donnell and Tony Caban are vying for one of J.U.S.T.'s midfield positions. Jamie Paton is back in contention after recovering from injury, and even Graham Tulliford, who has been out for most of the season, is battling back now.

Two wins from these two games, could put J.U.S.T. into fourth position.

Macedonia, facing Brisbane Lions in Brisbane, regains George Campbell after suspension, but after the team's 5-2 victory against George Cross, coach Frank McAleer may resist making changes. The big win followed the introduction of goalkeeper Richard Wilson, midfielder Gordon Flavell and striker Lane to the side, at the expense of Steve Potter, Ljubo Petrovski and Campbell.

George Cross's finest victory of the season was against SM-Hellas, 1-0, with Ossie Latif scoring the goal, and Tom Costello saving a penalty. Now George Cross hopes for another victory, at its home-ground fortress where, according to Bobby Toal, the 'Cross' could beat even Sydney Hakoah.

If APIA beats Sydney Hakoah in Sydney, in APIA

VSF Travel top scorers

The VSF Travel Club, in conjunction with Ametco Travel, is sponsoring our 1984 National Conference Top Scorer award.

The winner receives a trip to Europe, flying Thai International.

Leaders:
12 — Brown (SMH)
9 — Cairney (BL), Lewis (GG), Winn, Patterson (Heid), Konstandopoulos (WA)
7 — Daunt (BL), Gojevic (M. Cro), Egan (SMH)
6 — Sweeney, Ward (B. Jive), Brogan (M. Cro).

Team of the week

In brackets: number of appearances in team of the week.

OLVER (1) (Heidelberg)	YANKOS (3) (Heidelberg)	M'DOWELL (4) (JUST)	MC MILAN (2) (Makedonia)
JANKOVICS (4) (Marconi)	PIMBLETT (3) (Bris. City)	SENKALSKI (1) (West Rosebud)	FARRUGIA (2) (Melita Eagles)
JURIN (1) (Syd. Croatia)	LLUIC (2) (JUST)		



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RATCLIFFE RETURNS

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Weekend NSL matches with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

Canberra Arrows v Footscray J.U.S.T. at Schinler Reserve, 3pm.
B.U. JUVENTUS v Adelaide City Juventus at Olympic Park No.2, 3pm.

Newcastle-Rosebud v St. George Budapest (draw) at Adamstown Oval, 2.30pm.

SUNDAY

Heidelberg-Alexander v Green Gully at Olympic Village, 3pm.

West Adelaide Hellas v MELBOURNE CROATIA at Hindmarsh Stadium, 2.30pm.

Sunshine-George Cross v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS at Chaplin Reserve, 3pm.

Marconi v Penrith at Marconi Stadium, 3pm.

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Sydney City Hako

Demons leave Saints shaky!

St George 0
Blacktown 1

Scorer: John Larkin 59th
Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 864
Referee: Arthur Owens 8
Cautions: M. O'Shea, Byrne

Blacktown completed a double over St George Budapest when John Larkin netted in the 59th minute to send St George deep into the relegation zone.

It was a lacklustre performance by both sides, with neither showing much penetration and the goalkeepers proving to be the best players on the day. Barry Hoare earned his man of the match award by saving Blacktown at crucial times.

Robbie Wheatey and Mark Barton, youngsters with some future in this game, showed a lot of class. Wheatey stopped Dez Marton, Saints' ageing striker, while Barton was dominant in midfield for St George.

Phil O'Connor, the man Blacktown invested in so heavily, did not perform anywhere near his best and is still feeling his way back into the game. He showed a few touches, but will take some time before he is back to his best. Cliff Pointner, the hard-tackling Demon did not waste much time in getting back to his best, showing a lot of zest at the back.

Well, the precious points again went to the Demons against last year's champions. And yet again by the same scoreline. It might have been a different story had David Skeen and David Traliffe been in the side. Saints are not getting the breaks which fell their way last year and one wonders just how long it is going to be before the side is regarded as a serious candidate for relegation.

After only nine minutes of the game, Barry Hoare rushed out to foil Peter Pekovics after the St George youngster had been put through by Mark Barton. Then, with Saints one down, Hoare was on hand to remedy a error by Skellern. Robbie Slater looked to have a golden opportunity to score but a diving Barry Hoare saved the day for the Demons.

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LUJIC DAZZLES, SO J.U.S.T. TRIUMPHS

Green Gully 2
+ Foots. JUST 3

Scorers: 0-1 Lujic 26th, 1-1 Carter pen 45th, 2-1 McLauchlan 56th, 2-2 Belic 78th, 2-3 Belic 79th.
Venue: Green Gully Reserve
Referee: Jim Polkovic 8
Cautions: Paton (FJ), Carter (GC) — sent off 90th, Smart

One of Cedo Cirkovic's favorite sayings is that when Zdravko Lujic plays well, Footscray just plays well.

This match was very much a case in point, with Lujic leading JUST from the brink of defeat to a good victory by contributing a goal and setting up the other two for Vlatko Belic.

Bobby McLachlan admitted after the game that his full-back Ken Smart had a nightmare against the JUST winger but the Green Gully coach saw it vastly differently when it came to summing up the match.

"We had the game won but gave it away because too cocky and complacent."

"They (JUST) took the lead against the run of play but we got the equaliser at a vital time and scored a lovely goal at the start of the second half."

Richard Larkham photo



George Streeter

Man of the Match:
BARRY HOARE
(Blacktown)

And while Saints diddled and fiddled, Blacktown scored its solitary goal with ease. Nick Papas failed to tackle O'Connor and with Terry Greedy out of goal the ball ran loose to Larkin who only had to tap it in for the winner.



WA-Hellas striker George Konstandopoulos is carried off injured at Olympic Sports Field. At left in the dark jacket is Hellas coach Sam Salabesidis. Picture: FRANK HOBBS.

FANS GO WILD OVER REFEREE

By ROBERT LUSETICH

**AC-Juventus 3
WA-Hellas 2**

Venue: Olympic Sportsfield
Crowd: 4000
Scorers: Metta 8th, 73rd,
Gatenby 62nd, Honeyman 43rd & 79th.

Cautions: Panagis, Manou, Honeyman, Metta.

This intense and entertaining match was marred by mob violence. About 20 police had to be called to break up rampaging spectators at the match, which was won by Adelaide Juventus 3-2.

Intense fans invaded the pitch midway through the second half and made lutes at referee Tony Martell and his linesmen, before police could control the hysteria.

There seemed to be no direct cause for this intrusion but the tension was apparent, as is often the case in local derby matches, from the beginning.

Some Hellas supporters were angry about several refereeing decisions and it became obvious the problems had not ended with the first ground invasion.

The climax came five minutes from the end when, with the scores at 3-2, Hellas' Graham Honeyman appeared to have equalised for his team. Martell however, ruled there had been an infringement on a Juve defender and subsequently disallowed the goal.

This so angered the Hellas fans among the 4,000-strong crowd, that a mob again streamed onto the pitch, many

of them calling for the referee's blood.

It took seven minutes before play could once again start.

Amazingly there were no arrests or injuries, although several people were removed from the ground.

After the match Martell was escorted from the ground by police.

The post mortem consensus seemed to be that Martell's refereeing had left much to be desired.

Hellas team manager Frank Karagiannis described it as the "worst" he had seen, and also criticised the behavior of some Adelaide Juventus player who, he said, constantly made finger gestures to certain sections of the crowd.

Adelaide Juventus chairman Charlie Caruso also slammed Martell's exhibition, but thought there were other equally important reasons for the crowd behavior.

"It's a real tragedy. It's about time the standard of refereeing was looked at," Caruso said.

"But Sam Salabesidis (Hellas coach) should never have got up and gone to the linesman in the first half," he said.

Salabesidis, angered at a decision made by the linesman in the 62nd minute, put the ball into the net in the 8th minute to give his side the lead.

Not to be denied, Hellas levelled just before half-time through a Graham Honeyman penalty.

A 43rd minute corner had been shot toward goal by Hellas defender Brenton Hiern and would have counted but for a handball by Jon Mullen on the goal-line.

Juve regained the lead in the 78th minute after a

\$5000 BACKING

Canberra will compete in this year's under-15 championships in Perth from September 2 thanks to a \$5,000 sponsorship from a Canberra company, Concrete Constructions.

Canberra will also compete in the national under-14 and under-16 championships, both in NSW, but not the under-13 championships in Melbourne.

Then but Green Gully eased off and with the wind at our back the lads only had to do and that was to keep putting the ball into the back. With that much pressure it was bound to go in sooner or later," said Jim Tansey after the game.

Gully, kicking with the strong breeze, dominated the opening 25 minutes, coming close with two attempts by Carter, who over the bar before Lujic turned the game around, running onto a good through pass to speed past his marker and hammer a shot past Lou Denys.

Paul Lewis had a goal disallowed for offside before the Greens equalised on the stroke of half time through Les Carter from a penalty awarded against Hazebant who stopped a shot by Lewis with his hands on the goal line.

Gully continued to pressure at the restart and took the lead with a good move in which Carter provided the cross, and Lewis dummed over the ball, allowing it to travel to Bobby McGuinness on the far side for a clear shot with which it made no mistake.

Hazebant was switched from full back to the centre of the defence and despite McLachlan's appraisal, I thought he did a fair job.

Leigh restricted him to one clear-cut chance in the second half, when the Gully striker sped away and forced Dennis

match with a stinging piledriver from the edge of the box.

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But there was never any danger of the veteran midfielder being left out.

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Peter Desira

Man of the Match:
ZDRAVKO LJUJIC
(JUST)

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Les Carter, Gully's best player on the day, capped a sad afternoon for the Greens by a goal sent off from a dissent right on full time after earlier booking for retaliation against Suleiman Curovic.

His automatic suspension eases the way for Willie Vassallo to return for this week's clash against Heidelberg.

But there was never any danger of the veteran midfielder being left out.



Man of the Match:
GRANT LEE
(Syd. Hakoah)

Penalty 'dodgy' says Thomson

Canberra 0
SC-Hakoah 1

Scorer: John Kosmina, 22nd minute (penalty)
Venue: National Sports Centre
Caution: Key
Referee: T. Stacey 6

When you lose by a hotly-disputed penalty you have good reason to feel dejected — and that was just Canberra's reaction after its loss to NSL front-runner Sydney City Hakoah on Sunday.

For my money Hakoah was the better side on the day. Again, however, it lacked talent on the front line to finish its good moves?

But that penalty? Video replays more than enforce my view that it was a legitimate tackle that felled Hakoah's front-runner Grant Lee on the left flank in the 22nd minute.

Lee, far and away Hakoah's most creative and penetrating forward, seemed the most surprised man on the park at the penalty decision by Sydney referee, Terry Seacy.

More damning was the comment Hakoah's coach, Eddie Thomson, after the game. He described the decision as "dodgy".

The spot kick was taken by Australia's captain John Kosmina and of course converted



Peter Windsor

although Canberra's goalkeeper Tony Franken made a valiant attempt to save and even managed to get a hand to the ball.

Tony Redmond and Jim Harkins and midfielders Steve Bryant and Tommy Semmens played well for Canberra.

Andrew Brockbank chimed in so much with the attack that he was a third striker — and he, too, had a fine game.

It was Brockbank, in fact, who laid on a great Canberra goalscoring chance in the 64th minute. He made space on the left wing and his low cross left Alan Reis with the easiest of chances from a mere six metres. He had only goalkeeper Tony Franken to beat, but fired straight at the keeper.

For me the best of the Hakoah second-half efforts were a shot from Gerry Gomez that went wide and a Grant Lee chipped cross that beat Franken to be finally touched away for a corner by referee Roy Jones.

Canberra finished on top of Hakoah as it probed desperately for the opening that would at least bring an equaliser.

Full marks to youngster Manis Lamond. In his NSL debut the 18-year-old looked impressive and obviously has a bright future.

Best for Hakoah were Lee, Watson and perhaps Murray while everyone in Canberra's back-line and midfield grafted hard all day — in particular Sermanni, Brockbank and Bryant, with the youngster Lamond doing well up front.

Alston still not flustered

Syd Croatia 2
Wollongong 0

Venue: King Tomislav Park
Crowd: 3000
Referee: Power 7
Scorers: Jurin 17th, Gatfin 61st

Wollongong coach Adrian Alston won't press the panic button after seeing his young team concede yet another defeat — this time against a slick Sydney Croatia side.



Philip Micallef

Alston said he was dismayed with the result but quite pleased with his side's display, especially in the second half.

"Croatia gave us little chance in the first half but after the break it was a different story," Alston said.

"Our midfield looked well in control and we should have scored on a couple of occasions."

Wollongong in fact was unlucky not to score when Willis, who had a good game, twice hit the crossbar with Croatia goalkeeper Watson beaten.

Croatia coach Harry Noon was, contrary to Alston, happy with the result but not so much with his forwards.

Man of the Match:
ZELJKO JURIN
(Syd. Croatia)

"We should have put away more goals," Noon said.

But Noon is confident his side, beaten only once in the past six rounds, is playing well enough to make the top five series.

Willis hit the crossbar for Wollongong just before half time and after the break the visitors began to play better but were dealt a cruel blow when Willis again struck the crossbar with Watson beaten.

Luck remained firmly on Croatia's side 15 minutes later when Willis again struck the crossbar with Watson beaten.

CUMMING LEFT OUT, YANKOS SUPERB!



Man of the Match:
CHARLIE YANKOS
(Heidelberg)

Melb. Croatia 0
Heidelberg 0

Venue: Olympic Park.
Crowd: about 5000.
Cautions: Brogan (Cr), Stevenson (H), Yankos (H), Antolovic (Cr), Angele (H).
(Referee: Jim Fearn 7.)

Brilliant goalkeeping, commando-style hand-to-hand combat and the inspiring defensive play of Charlie Yankos kept the clash of the league leaders scoreless, but both teams had ample opportunities to win.

How did Robert Markovac miss from dead front, after his own square pass from the right wing in the 34th minute? How did Peter Blasby manage to stop Steve Winn's first-time shot at point-blank range in the 77th and how unfortunate was it for Croatia that Tommy Cumming stumbled over the ball momentarily

after a cut-back from Josip Biskic in the 61st?

Those and other flashes of goal-mouth action kept the crowd on its toes throughout the match.

And, fittingly — for this was a contest of the fiercest gladiators — there was lots of gore as well.

Five players were booked for violent play; Heidelberg captain Theo Silemidis had to come off with a leg injury after hobbling on the wing until the 35th minute; Steve Gojevic was taken to hospital for stitches to a deep cut over his right eye, from which blood flowed freely as he left the ground and Mike Valentine finished the game with blood streaming down his face.

League leadership was at stake. It just had to be a tough battle.

The draw was a fitting result — although the crowd would have preferred a 2-2 rather than a 0-0 — but it was a result which suited neither team as much as it did South Melbourne Hellas, which moved a point closer to both the league leaders after beating Juventus at Middle Park.

Croatia coach Tony Vrzina made the amazing pre-match decision to leave Tommy Cumming on the bench, rather than change the team that had beaten Macedonia 3-1 the previous week. It was a decision which may have cost Croatia a victory.

Cumming, who had been suspended from the Macedonia match, replaced injured Gojevic in the 40th minute and what he did from that point onwards suggested his presence would have been decisive during Croatia's best period — the first half-hour.

Cumming was left out in the vain hope of maintaining peace among the players. Fifteen well-established senior players are vying for 11 positions, and none of them likes to be left out.

So Vrzina reasoned that Cumming, who had missed the previous match, had to fight his way back the same way others have had to. In Cumming's absence, Jim Campbell retained midfield position but after his long lay-off, Campbell was largely ineffective.

Heidelberg had to contend with the absence of stopper Don Macleod who was suspended. This meant that Joe Angele moved to centre-back, Mike Valentine to left back, Scott Patterson to left midfield and Paul Tzintzis came into the team to partner Steve Winn and Stuart Stevenson up front.

It all worked fine. Angele, directed and prompted by Yankos throughout the match, was strong in the middle of the defence, Valentine was up and down the line like a yo-yo, although Josip Biskic often got the better of him; Patterson was put in the body and was dangerous in the air when close to goal, and Stevenson was like a tagger, honing in attack, just like his Croatia equivalent, David Brogan.

But the single most dominant force was Charlie Yankos. He was all-powerful in defence, winning every header, and stopping countless attacks with his fearsome tackling, as well as coming close to scoring with a 30-metre free kick which Blasby palmed over the crossbar in the 84th minute. On this form, Yankos will play for Australia until he's 40!

The result leaves Croatia unbeaten in 14 consecutive matches — ten in the league and four in the National Cup — while Heidelberg is unbeaten in six straight games.

And in drawing last Sunday,



Grim determination shows on the faces of Heidelberg's Ian McKie (left) and Croatia's David Brogan at Olympic Park. Picture by LES SHORROCK.



Tommy Cumming (right) who came on as a substitute, is foiled by goalkeeper Jeff Oliver.

tables on Heidelberg, which had won their first-round encounter 5-2.

Croatia should have won in the first half last Sunday. Heidelberg should have won in the second half.

Croatia looked threatening when Brogan got a bounce off Yankos' body, sidestepped Angele, and looked set to score. Goalkeeper Oliver however, had come out quickly towards Brogan narrowing the angle so effectively that Brogan's shot went wide of the far post.

But the best scoring chance came in the 34th minute. Gojevic played the ball short for Brogan running into the box and Brogan stylishly slipped the ball to his right, for unmarked Markovac who, however, shot across goal when it would have been easier to score.

Oliver's best save — a double save, really — came in the 43rd minute. He flew to block a drive from Brogan and without any time to recover, also managed to punch the ball virtually off the feet of Cumming who was storming to finish off.

Biskic was really showing off his immaculate skills on the right wing in the 61st minute when he drove past Valentine and Angele in a move that would have brought raves of "Ole, Ole" from a Latin crowd. Having left them in his wake, Biskic cut the ball back from the line for Cumming who stumbled over the ball and in doing so, lost his chance to score. He recovered within a second, sure enough, but then his shot deflected off a defender who had moved in front of him.

But then the match swung

the turnaround started with a header by Paul Tzintzis that hit the far post. Tzintzis then started a move, via Stevenson, which ended with Steve Winn Swivelling on the ball but seeing Blasby make a point-blank save.

Winn followed up with a header that went too high, and then came that free kick by Yankos, which was palmed over by Blasby.

Croatia won the youth league game 2-0, with Robert Salihi scoring the first, and Heidelberg conceding an own goal after a header by Vranic.

Teams, with ratings

CROATIA: Govic 7 — Zelic 8, Salihi 8, Smoljic 8, Bacak 7 — Trogolic 6, Adams 9, Proutder 9, Vranic 7 (Zuberic 7st) — Sare 7 (Zemunicki 8st), Saitik 8.

HEIDELBERG: Kardamits 8 — Tzintzis 7, Christoforidis 8, Pontikis 7, Solakis 8 — Glynopoulos 8, Vagias 7 (Rahovitsas 6th), Atmatzidis 6 — Nikolaides 6th), Thodis 8 — Filippou 7, Delignannis 7.

The Eagles came back strongly, but their finishing was far from satisfactory. In the end it was left to centre-back Wilson to score for the visitors. Gosting, however, dived at the feet of Allan to save.

After surviving the early onslaught, Newcastle-Rosebud slowly took over, using the wind to advantage and at times pushing the ball about the park in an attractive style.

The Eagles looked set to score. Gosting's save from Derek Laing was first class but as the ball bounced away to Don Allan it looked curtains for the visitors. Gosting, however, dived at the feet of Allan to save.

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And in drawing last Sunday,

the match swung

Croatia took the lead after only 17 minutes when a cross from Arnold was met by Yugoslav import Zeljko Jurin who gave Tilds no chance with a fine volley.

Willis hit the crossbar for Wollongong just before half time and after the break the visitors began to play better but were dealt a cruel blow when Willis again struck the crossbar with Watson beaten.

Luck remained firmly on Croatia's side 15 minutes later when Willis again struck the crossbar with Watson beaten.

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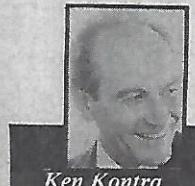
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Makedonia set for the finals



Ken Kontra

Makedonia 5

George Cross 2

Venue: Connor Reserve
Crowd: 1500
Scorers: McMillan 9th (M), Lane 14th (M), McGorian 55th (G.C.), Dunn 65th (M), Dobson 72nd (M), Faulkner 84th (G.C.), Iloski 89th (M).
Yellow cards: Ozdakov, Dobson.
Referee: Bernie Upjohn 7.

Man of the Match:
GEORGE McMILLAN
(Makedonia)

cepted a poor George Cross clearance, walked through the defence and netted after rounding Contini.

A few minutes later Lane met a Graham Heys cross from the right wing at the far post to give the home team a comfortable two goal lead.

Booby Toal had his powerful shot well saved by Wilson, but generally, Makedonia was very much in control in the first half.

George Cross tried desperately to get back into the match early in the second half, and its efforts were rewarded when, in the 55th minutes McGorian broke through the middle, dribbled past Wilson and scored.

Two Heys corners however put an end to any hopes the visitors may have entertained. The first was headed home by Dunn. A few minutes later it was Dobson's turn to do likewise.

With six minutes remaining, McGorian collected the ball in midfield and his penetrating run was illegally stopped by Dobson inside the penalty area.

Latif's penalty was parried by Wilson but Jeff Faulkner was on the spot to tuck the rebound away.

In the 89th minute, substitute Zoran Iloski delivered the coup de grace when he beat Contini with an angled shot from 10 metres.

Both teams had a lot at stake. Makedonia is vying for a top five berth. George Cross, on the other hand, is desperately trying to avoid the big drop at the end of the season. After this match, Makedonia's aspirations are certainly more likely to eventuate.

Steve Potter's place went to former New Zealand international Richard Wilson and for George Cross, Alan Contini substituted for Tom Costello, who was unavailable due to illness.

Makedonia winger George Campbell, serving a week's suspension, was replaced in the line-up by new UK import Sean Lane. Lane, a former Derby County player, had an impressive debut as target man, and could be just the player to give Gary Cole the support he needs up front.

In other positional changes, George McMillan moved to right full back, with Robbie Dunn and Ian Dobson looking after central defensive positions.

McMillan had a great game. He had the measure of George Cross striker Ossie Latif for most of the match as well as participating in attacking moves at every opportunity.

In fact, it was McMillan who started the goalscoring spree, when in the ninth minute he inter-

cepted a poor George Cross clearance, walked through the defence and netted after rounding Contini.

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Jubilant Brisbane City after its win against Brisbane Lions. From left, rear: club official, A. Pagan, B. Hamilton, G. Bromfizzi, K. Wishart, coach J. Gilroy, F. Pimblett, T. O'Meara. Front: K. Swan giving the victory sign, S. Perry, M. Milovanovic, F. Mengotti, F. Liddell, S. Walsh. Picture by CARLOS PICASSO.

City turns the tables

Brisb. City 1
Brisb. Lions 0

Scorer: Fabrizio 2nd.
Venue: Spencer Park.
Crowd: 1572.
Cautions: Niven, Vasquez, Deaunt (BL), Hamilton (BC).

It took just 79 seconds for Brisbane City to score its first winning derby goal in two years against Lions at Spencer Park.

City had not beaten its NSW neighbour since the second round of 1982 but caught Lions napping immediately after the kick-off.

Despite playing into a strong wind, City pushed forward quickly and a long pass into the penalty box was nodded across the goal by Steve Walsh.

He found Luciano Fabrizio unmarked and he was booked by Queensland referee Gordon Nicholson.

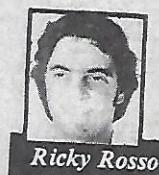
And his refereeing display brought heated criticism from the Lions officials.

Some of Nicholson's decisions angered even the winning City fans and there were reports of a skirmish outside the referees' dressing room.

The two points kept City in the top five race while the loss pushed Lions back down the table and possibly out of contention for a finals berth.

And Lions definitely deserved a point.

Apart from the goal, the



Ricky Rosso

muscle on Saturday morning during a routine fitness test on a hamstring injury, which had healed. He is expected to be sidelined for at least another week — and that's good news for Makedonia, which visits Richlands on Sunday.

City will also be without talented young sweeper Roddy Vasquez, who will be suspended.

Vasquez was one of three Lions players booked by Queensland referee Gordon Nicholson.

And his refereeing display brought heated criticism from the Lions officials.

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only other time City looked like scoring was when Frank Pimblett curled a shot around Farrow but saw his attempt hit the upright.

Pimblett had a fine game and his work rate and marshalling in the middle of the park — the first time in two years Lions have given him the space to do so — proved the difference between the teams.

Lions, though, had ample opportunity to win or equalise.

They had two shots cleared off the line, saw a Steve Jackson piledriver hit the woodwork and squandered several other scoring opportunities by hesitating inside the box.

Jimmy Patikas drove his header through a maze of bodies on the stroke of an hour to give Sydney Olympic a narrow but well deserved victory.

Olympic made hard work of this match.

Mark Koussas was the culprit and his great touch for goals is still missing. He was in great shape to score on at least three occasions during the first period but missed with two of his attempts, while Michael Gibson made a brilliant save on the third occasion.

Raskopoulos hit the crossbar and Patikas failed to find the net from close range after beating McIntosh and Gibson.



Alex Vesic

SOPER BACK IN FORM

Penrith 0
Sydney Olympic 1

Scorer: Patikas 59th.
Venue: Cromer Park.
Referee: Peter Rampley 8.
Crowd: about 1000.

Just over 1,000 spectators at Cook Park, predominantly Sydney Olympic supporters, cheered their team to its ninth victory of the season, but some improvements are needed if the side is to challenge for honours.

Penrith, with Roy Cotton sidelined by injury, almost matched its much-fancied opponents and showed a lot of courage.

Brian Jackson and Ian Hunter caused their opponents a lot of problems and with a little more composure up front, anything could have happened.

On the bright side for Olympic, its star striker, Marshall Soper had a strong match, often beating McIntosh with ease despite some close attention.

Jimmy Patikas drove his header through a maze of bodies on the stroke of an hour to give Sydney Olympic a narrow but well deserved victory.

Olympic made hard work of this match.

Mark Koussas was the culprit and his great touch for goals is still missing. He was in great shape to score on at least three occasions during the first period but missed with two of his attempts, while Michael Gibson made a brilliant save on the third occasion.

Raskopoulos hit the crossbar and Patikas failed to find the net from close range after beating McIntosh and Gibson.

Man of the Match:

MIKE GIBSON

(Penrith)

Daley close to the line, to add to Olympic's problems.

Penrith, despite its territorial disadvantage and playing strictly counter-attacking, almost 'Watford style' football, was not without its own chances.

Brian Jackson made a break in the 33rd minute before passing his pass to Ian Hunter who in turn found an unmarked David Fitzharris and his shot from close range went straight at Gary Meier.

Brian Jackson had another opportunity only two minutes later. Seven metres from goal and with the ball bouncing at a pleasant height, Jackson volleyed but over the bar. Then came another opportunity, this time for Fitzharris after a smart move by Penrith, but Fitzharris shot wide.

Almost from the kick-off in the second half Olympic should have gone ahead. Patikas found Koussas on the edge of the area and Koussas turned Paul Daley with ease to face Gibson. It looked curtains for the big man but alas the shot by Koussas was so weak it hardly reached Gibson.

At the other end Penrith scored and it appeared that the linesman kept his flag down, yet referee Rampley judged a Penrith player to be in an offside position. Not many protests from the Penrith crowd or players, assuming that the decision was a correct one.

Penrith also was denied in the closing stages as Ian Hunter scored but on this occasion Hunter was offside as he drove past Meier.

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Cost \$4.00 per day

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Also, a new feature at the Indoor Centre

BAYSWATER GYM

Run by body-building professional, Vern Johnson

All at 3 Burton Court, Bayswater.

For information or bookings, ring Nick or Pat Van Egmond on 729 1999 or 729 0780.



• Victorian players, training last week under national youth coach Jim Shouler. From left, rear: Shoulder, Greg Cunningham (physio), Steve Tasiros, Alan Roodhouse, Robert Markovic, Stuart Lee, Corrado Nobile, Paris Tzambasis, Claude Avien, John Kanesoulis, Frank Sabettino, Tim White, Front: Anastasios, Kotzamichalis, John Metaxas, Ernie Tepai, Darren White, Victor Cristaldo, Con Kekatos.

LEICHARDT FANS, SUPPORT YOUR PARENT CLUB ...

THE A.P.I.A. CLUB OPENS
SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
FOR LUNCH 12 to 3 pm

Papallo—we need a truly national National League

APIA president Nick Papallo says that the present National League format lacks a truly national flavor and is too complicated for most soccer fans.

"This year our gates, as with all National League clubs, are well down. I haven't got the answers but I've got an idea as to how this came about," said Papallo.

Breaking the league into two sections (an Australian Conference and a National Conference) knocked a lot of interest out of the competition. We once were working towards a truly national competition and that's what I believe people want to see. The format of this year's competition is complicated and it doesn't take much for people on the fringe of being soccer fans to drop off.

Papallo also is critical of the one-month break in the league program, held recently during the World Series tournament.

That one-month break hurt us. A lot of people had just too much soccer crammed into that period and let's face it, a lot of fans came back to the local soccer scene highly critical of the standard. To some extent, you can't blame them for they'd just been watching teams like the great Juventus of Italy in action.

The APIA supremo also points to the scheduling of junior matches as a cause of flagging attendances.

Too many juniors are playing on the same days as the National League clubs. That has to stop. We're not getting enough kids to our games and that's going to hurt us. It means that we're losing the support of their parents right now and the support of these kids, as players as well as spectators, in the future. We need the support of the state federations to reschedule junior matches.

Papallo, especially in regard to NSW, praises what he sees as a far healthier relationship between the National League and the state federations.

"The states are becoming more co-operative each year. Take the example of NSW. John Constantine is the NSW president and he's a man who understands the difficulties

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

of nurturing a National League club, having been president of Sydney Olympic."

Papallo, 46, is a lawyer, having graduated from Sydney university. He's married with two sons — aged 13 and 15 — and was honorary Italian vice-consul in Sydney for six years. He was born in Italy and came to Australia in 1949. He's been president of the APIA clubs for seven years.

Papallo was the instigator of APIA forming a separate company from the social club, which no longer could subsidise the soccer club this year. Under his firm leadership, APIA started to phase out signing-on fees last year, a move which has been completed this season. And Papallo is hopeful that APIA's expenditure this year can be slashed to below \$200,000. If successful, the club will have taken a giant step toward securing its future for APIA, as with most National League clubs, has incurred an annual expenditure, since joining the NSL in 1979, of around \$300,000.

APIA enjoyed its best year, financially, in 1982, when its income exceeded \$160,000, a figure unlikely to be reached this season.

"You have to concede that no one city can have 12 big clubs and survive. Most soccer cities around the world have only two really big clubs.

The cake just isn't big enough to be divided among a lot of clubs. We have to face that fact.

"More than once in a season, you think about the wisdom of continuing in soccer. Sometimes you get disappointed at all the work you put in for such a small return.

"But the National League must continue. It's no less attractive this year, even given the regionalised format, than in previous years. Some of the teams play some great soccer."

"We've got to keep going. We've done a lot for the standard of the game in this country."

APIA



APIA's 1983 team. Back row: Jim Bottalico, Mark Brown, Greg Woodhouse, Arno Peter Jones, Ian Gray, Bertie Mariani. Front row: Paul Carter, John Bradley, Te Peter Tredinnick, Tony Morsello. Pictures by CARLOS PICASSO.

Bottalico's boys flying higher than expect

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

or we'd be in the National League because finances were so hard come by," said Bottalico.

"We sold Paul Carter to Marconi, Seb Giampaolo and Walter Valeri to Inter Monaro. Greg Woodhouse to Sydney Croatia and Rod Skellern to Blacktown and Bertie Mariani returned to Marconi. That left all the team players, all valuable members of last year's squad.

"The squad last year numbered about 16 or 17 players but we didn't have big

money with which to buy players this year and the squad had to be cut down to just 14. I thought to myself, 'If we finish in the middle of the table we'll be doing well, but if we finish second it will have been a fine achievement.'

Bottalico prides himself on his relationship with his players. He sees himself as a straight-forward person and likes to think that his players recognise that and appreciate that quality in a coach. He's also full of praise for the character of the APIA players.

"We've got an absolutely tremendous bunch of lads. I don't distance myself

as a coach. Me and the players are friends more than anything else.

"If you work hard and do the right thing, you'll do well. If you find players who are interested in playing first rather than playing for money, you'll be alright. If you find players who primarily are interested in playing for money then you're in trouble."

So let's look at the 14 players in Bottalico's first team squad and his assessment of them.

BOBBY PARKS (Goalkeeper): "One of the best keepers in Australia for Good. In the air with good reflexes. He's 29, so he's nearing his peak as a goalkeeper. He was playing really well until he got injured against Blacktown this year."

BOB CATLIN (Goalkeeper): "He's going to Australia's number one keeper. We got him from Manly when he was 16. He's just 18 now but what potential he's got. He's tall, he's strong and he's really confident. He made his National League debut for us against Heidelberg a couple of weeks ago. The other thing I like about him is that he's not scared to attack the ball."

VIC BOZANIC (Defender): "We signed Vic on loan from Marconi this year for \$3,000 with the option of buying him at the end of the season. Vic's tough and experienced. He's got a really good shot and loves to overlap."

MARK BROWN (Defender): "Mark's only 20 but what a tough and skilful full back he is. He's come up from our juniors and established himself last season. He's very comfortable on the ball and like Vic Bozanic, likes to go forward."

ARNO BERTOGNA (Defender): "At the moment, Arno is our destroyer. He's playing sweeper right now which isn't his best position. He's more at home as a stopper but nevertheless, Arno is doing a great job for us and he's a great influence on the team. We signed him from Wollongong last year. It's a pity that work commitments stopped him from playing for Australia this year in the World Series tournament."

APIA coach Fil Bottalico was born in Egypt of Italian parents and played top Egyptian club Zamalek. His appearance in APIA colors in 1959 heralded a long, illustrious playing and coaching career in Australia. APIA played in four Australian Cup finals in the 1960's, winning one — in 1966 — with a 2-0 victory over Sydney City Hakoubi. After 13 playing seasons with APIA, eight as captain, Bottalico was appointed assistant coach in 1974 to Tom Anderson. In 1975, Bottalico became first team coach and took APIA to the premiership and a win in the State Cup. The following year, inspired by Bottalico, APIA won the Grand Final. APIA entered the National League, via amalgamation and eventual takeover of Western Suburbs in 1979, and Bottalico reigned the coaching reins for the 1983 season.

MARK PULLEN (Defender): "The best stopper in Australia. Definitely! I'm absolutely amazed that he hasn't been picked in the Australian team because he's got everything. He's fast, he's good in the air, he's strong and his disposal is good. He's just 26, so he's nearing his peak."

IAN GRAY (Midfielder): "An Australian international. Like Mark Pullegen, Ian has got everything going for him. He's young and he's very fast. And he can control the ball really well at full speed which is an attribute every good attacking midfielder should have. He's also got a great shot. Ian Gray can cement a place in the national team for sure."

TERRY BUTLER (Midfielder): "The veteran. What can you say about this man who has given APIA 11 years of senior service after joining the club as a junior? He has a tremendous heart. He doesn't know when to stop trying. He's our midfield general."

PETER TREDINNICK (Midfielder): "An Australia international. He played with the Socceroos in Singapore last year and was very, very unlucky not to be picked

for the Socceroos during World Series. He's very fa control is excellent. He's hoping that he can get national team."

TONY MORSELLO (Forward): "Really good player who much better if he really plays it. Tony's a bit lazy and I onto him about that but he is very, very good. Like I apply himself more, he can play player."

JOHN BRADLEY (Forward): "He's cheeky. And that's player he is. Off the field he's a gentleman but on the field and tease the best defend hard to stop. He's fast, he's fast, and shot and his ball control is

KERRY CABAN (Forward): "He's great from Newcastle. He's great on the ball. He's good, in fact no-one can him. His passing is good, he's an ideal target man. unlucky in front of goal, great scoring position haven't been going as go terms of getting goals, as he'll get there. And reme has two men on him. He's can establish himself in League."

ROB DE CEGLIE (Forward): "He couldn't get when we were winning season. I can use him in mid wing. He's very fast but impatient. He wants to do a second. I've been telling down, not to rush things. He's a young player. He's just 21."

TONY GENOVESE (Forward): "Very, very fast shot in either foot. He's got a big, big future."

Anniversary celebrations

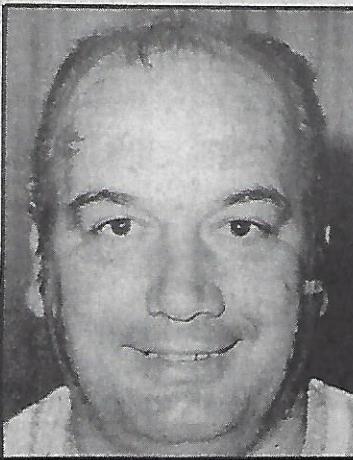
APIA is celebrating its 30th year as one of the greats of Australian soccer.

The club is holding a huge anniversary dinner this Friday, August 17, to celebrate the club's foundation 30 years ago by a group of Australian and Italian workers at the Kurnell oil refinery.

Coincidentally, the dinner also will celebrate the 20th anniversary of APIA's first Grand Final win in 1964.

The Guest of Honor at Friday night's dinner is Mr. Lauri Brereton, the Minister of Works for NSW.

Many past APIA greats will be in attendance. All former players, officials and supporters are invited to attend this historic dinner. For further information phone the APIA club on (02) 810 0187.



APIA coach Fil Bottalico

BOOK NOW FOR THE 30th ANNIVERSARY
Tickets \$25.00 all inclusive (3 course meal and)

Final hurdle for Falcons?

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

SATURDAY
Knox City v Albion Rovers (draw) at Egan Lee Reserve, 3pm.
St. Albans Dinamo v Croydon (draw) at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
Western Suburbs v Ringwood Wilhelmina (draw) at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Fawkner v Morwell Falcons (draw) at Smith Reserve, 3pm.
BOX HILL v Northcote at Wembley Park, 3pm.
POLONIA v Broadmeadows at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.
Doveton v FRANKSTON PINES at Waratah Reserve, 3pm.

When Morwell Falcons step onto Smith Reserve this Sunday to take on Fawkner, they could be facing the final hurdle on their way to winning the 1984 State League championship.

Fawkner goes into the game at full strength. Morwell may not be so lucky for there's a doubt about big striker Ian Stirton's fitness. Stirton had to come off last weekend against St. Albans Dinamo and if he's unable to play again, Fawkner it will be a major blow to Morwell's chances for Stirton now has scored 10 goals in seven games.

Boyle's return to midfield is a real bonus for Fawkner. Boyle and Ged Bannon will be up against

Morwell's Jim MacLean and Steve Moore. Boyle and Bannon are fierce competitors and the fur certainly will fly in the middle of the park.

I'm going for a draw because of Morwell's impressive defensive record but a win to Fawkner would open up the title race again.

I was fortunate enough to be out when Les Shorrock dropped into my place last Saturday even-

ing to tell me all about the Monterey Boulevard game which dashed Box Hill's title chances. Shorrock reckons that Fawkner still is in the hunt for the championship. He's right, of course, but we'll know more about his ability as a tipster come 3pm this Sunday.

The Hillmen still have a hell of a lot to play for, however. They're just four points clear of 5th placed Northcote and they meet the Northerners at Wembley Park this Sunday. I've stuck with Box Hill all season and I'm not about to abandon it. And the latest rumor about the National League format for next season suggests

that the top four State League clubs all could be offered a spot in the NSL next year. That's more than enough incentive for Box Hill to end Northcote's top four hopes.

Frankston Pines finally returned to the winning list last weekend. If Pines make it two wins on end, they'll virtually have condemned Doveton to relegation. Even though the Doves are at home to Pines this Sunday, I'm tipping a Pines' victory.

Polonia should beat Broadmeadows at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday to stay in touch with Falcons and Fawkner while the other game on Sunday, between

Western Suburbs and Ringwood Wilhelmina, looks a good draw bet.

Knox surprised Croydon last weekend and can expect to pick up another point when it faces Albion Rovers at Egan Lee Reserve on Saturday. St. Albans and Croydon also meet on Saturday and again, I'm going for a draw.



Buffalo State League ladder

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MORWELL F	13	6	1	42	10	32
FAWKNER	12	5	3	50	27	29
POLONIA	12	5	3	46	26	29
BOX HILL	9	8	3	35	22	26
Northcote	10	2	8	44	31	22
West. Suburbs	9	4	7	38	41	22
F'ston Pines	5	8	7	24	31	18
Albion Rovers	6	6	7	18	25	18
R. Wilhelmina	5	7	7	29	30	17
Croydon	7	2	10	22	29	16
Knox City	5	4	11	26	48	14
Broadmeadows	5	2	13	19	39	12
St. Alb. Dinamo	2	7	11	23	43	11
Doveton	3	4	12	19	33	10

FRANKSTON PINES 3 (Dick 31st, 80th, Cummings 40th) BOX HILL 2 (Smith 14th, 87th) at Monterey Boulevard, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES: Sturtevitch 6 U Thurlow 7, Cullen 8, Wilson 6 (Spender 80th), Ferris 7 — Hodson 7 (Livingstone 65th), Ross 6, Cooke 7, Beech 4 — Cummings 7, Dick 8, Coach: Danny McMinn.

BOX HILL: McKinley 6 — Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 5, Brooks 5, A. Roodhouse 6 — White 6 (Taylor H.T. 6), Hughes 6, Valentine 6, Keenan 6 (Priestley 65th) — Smith 8, Acciardi 6, Coach: Bill Murray.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Smith (Box Hill), 2. Dick (Pines), 1. Cullen (Pines).

BROADMEADOWS 4 (Watson 58th, 69th penalty, Simic 56th, 78th) DOVETON 3 (Nelson 5th, J. McDonald 39th, Buchanan 68th) at Laura Douglas Reserve, Saturday.

BROADMEADOWS: Grech 6 — Smart 7, Donaldson 8, Daniels 8, Des 7 — George Watson 8, Horan 6, Blair 7, Campbell 6 (Stevens 73rd), Coach: Viccardo, Jim McMinn.

DOVETON: Radov 6 — Lutis 6, Gadsby 7, Dixey 7, Fitzpatrick 6, Buchanan 8, McDonald 6, Graham Watson 7, Edmondson 6, Nelson 7, J. McDonald 6 (McLeod 62nd), Coach: Ian Williamson.

Best three for Schipano Player of the year award: 3. Watson (Broad), 2. Buchanan (Dove), 1. Simic (Broad).

MORWELL FALCONS 4 (Sturton 25th, Clarke 70th, Webster 75th, Moore 80th) ST. ALBANS DINAMO 0 at North Cringin Reserve, Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS: Whiteside 7 — Higham 7, Burns 7, Clarke 8, Train 7 — Bingham 8, Moord 7, MacLean 7, O'Callaghan 7 — Sturton 7 (in), Webster 50th, 7) Athersby 8, Coach: Jimmy Dunne.

ST. ALBANS DINAMO: Debeljuk 7 — Kuzman 6, Bjekic 7, Radov 6, Bozic 5 — Rastovic 7, Buchanan 6, Collins 8, Kustura 6, Lencic 70th — Morovic 6, Mecanovic 6, Coach: Peter Kaslo.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Clarke (Marw), 2. Athersby (Morw), 1. Bingham (Marw).

ALBION ROVERS 2 (Robertson 49th, D'Sylva penalty 72nd) POLONIA 4 (Tront 15th, Przybyla 20th, Gilder 35th, Mila 58th) at Selwyn Park, Saturday.

ALBION ROVERS: Bryden 7, Gales 7, D'Sylva 8, Gilmore 7, Gatt 8 (in) Wilson 88th) — Purcell 7, Reilly 8, Alfons 7 (Rodrigues 80th) — McMorrow 7, Bouzas 6, Robertson 7, Coach: Billy McIntyre.

POLONIA: Fryzak 5 — Lipiarski 7, McClellan 7, Mila 8, Smolarek 7 — Mitten 7, Gilding 7, Innes 7, Tront 8 (Gibson 68th) — Przybyla 7, Gilder 35th, Gilder 8, Coach: John Gardner.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Mila (Pol), 2. Gilder (Pol), 1. Reilly (Albion).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 0 FAWKNER 0 at Juilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Lee 8 — Fryatt 6, Corke 7, Murray 9, Vernier 7 — Storn 8, Shannon 8, Burton 7 — Warszawski 7, Pilbeam 6 (Meyer 63rd), Stewart 8, Coach: Cor Teuw.

FAWKNER: Terzini 5 — McKinley 7, Cavallari 7, Macleod 7, Hobson 6 — Lia 4 (Boyle 63rd), Bannon 6 (Giacom 70th), Garvey 7 — Palinkas 5, Tuffield 6, cozzella 8, Coach: Gao Macleod.

Best three for Schipano Player of the year award: 3. Murray (RW), 2. Cozzella (Fawl), 1. Storn (RW).

CROYDON 0 KNOX CITY 1 (Smith 3rd) at Croydon Park, Sunday.

CROYDON: Kastner 7 — Rainey 7, Kerr 7, Breerton 7, Brown 6 — Irvine 6, French 6 (Lucio Salsi 74th), Singleton 6 — Livingstone 6, Loughnane 7, Killay 6, Coach: Colin Hasler.

KNOX CITY: Brian 8 — Stofels 6, Murray 7, Bissinger 6, Lesbirel 8 — Smith 8, Wild 7, Dixey 6 — Stack 7, House 6, Masters 6 (Gerrish 62nd), Coach: Eric Lesbirel.

Best three for Schipano Player of the year award: 3. Lesbirel (Knock), 2. Brian (Knock), 1. Smith (Knock).

NORTHCOTE 5 (Constantinou 10th, 20th, 39th, Micevski 35th, 42nd) WESTERN SUBURBS 2 (Coyle 60th, Dimovski 71st) at John Cain Reserve, Sunday.

NORTHCOTE: Gianopoulos 8 — Wilson 7, Ketsakidis 6, Bozikis 6, Mihos 6 — Wright 7, Quigley 8, Toro 7 (Patiotis 80th) — Dionopoulos 7, Micevski 7 (Bekiaris 75th), Constantinou 7, Coach: Jimmy Prgolios.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Hunter 5 — Hamill 5, Dimovski 6, Howe 6, Lekkas 5 (Mathewson H.T. 6) — coyle 6, Esposito 6, Mihos 6 — Lazopoulos 7, Stenson 6, Filippis 6, Coach: Jimmy Condilis.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Quigley (North), 2. Gianopoulos (North), 1. Constantinou (North).

PETER BOYLE COMES BACK

By MICK MITTEN

R. Wilhelmina 0 Fawkner 0

Venue: Jubilee Park

A surprisingly competitive Ringwood Wilhelmina always looked capable of catching out Fawkner on the break.

Both sides used the long passing ability of Kees Storm to get Greg Warszawski and Kenny Stewart going and it was a tactic which almost paid off.

Wilhelmina used the long passing ability of Kees Storm to get Greg Warszawski and Kenny Stewart going and it was a tactic which almost paid off.

The big bonus for Fawkner was the return from injury of midfielder Peter Boyle. He replaced another of touch Renzo Lia in the 63rd minute. Boyle's importance to Fawkner cannot be overstressed. He gives the side an option. Rather than simply hitting long balls in search of Tufield, players can play through Boyle and play can be built up.

Both teams had enough chances here to win.

Five minutes later, Bruno Cozzella turned superbly on the edge of the Wilhelmina area and cracked a shot on to the underside of the bar. Fred Murray cleared.

Wilhelmina's last chance came in the 90th minute. Des Shannon was at the near post for a Stewart cross. Shannon's first time shot flew wide of the top far corner.

Stewart broke on to the end of a long ball in the 70th minute. He only had Rob Twide to beat but rolled the ball wide of the post.

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State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
INTER MONARO.....	13	5	2	57	22	31
ROCKDALE ILINDEN	12	4	4	39	21	28
MANLY WARRINGAH	10	7	2	37	12	27
SUTHERLAND.....	10	5	5	33	19	25
Auburn.....	7	7	5	16	15	21
Polonia.....	6	5	8	21	27	17
Ku-Ring-Gai.....	5	7	8	23	32	17
Avala.....	5	6	8	27	36	16
Canterbury.....	5	5	10	18	40	15
Narabeen.....	5	4	10	21	36	14
Yugal.....	3	6	10	24	28	12
Bankstown.....	3	5	12	18	46	11

TOP SCORERS

15 — Valeri (IM), Brown (RI)
9 — Giampolo (IM)
9 — O'Shane (Aub), Milne (AV), Jeffery (KI), Leak, Holloway (MW)
7 — Monterosso (IM), Groom (Sl), Jesic (Y)
6 — Budini (Av), Milne (MW), Sobczyk (P)

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY: Cromer Park: MANLY v INTER MONARO; Knight Park: AVALA v CANTERBURY; Seymour Shaw: SUTHERLAND v YUGAL; Parklands: KU-RING-GAI v NARABEEN; Hurstville Oval: ROCKDALE ILINDEN v POLOMIA.

CANTERBURY 0 AVALA 3 (Milne 21st, Budini 66th, Bratkovic 68th) at Arlington Oval.

CANTERBURY: Konitsis 6 — Antonopoulos 6, Eftimades 6 (Kapirios 62nd — 6), Titlas 5, Lava 6 — Hantzis 7, Andreou 6 (Philippou 70th), Anagnostopoulos 5 — Hall 6, Dounis 5, Vassilou 5. AVALA: Thurlow 7 — Lembiuk 7, Bremner 8, Mackenzie 7, Milne 9 — Duvnjak 9, Kodor 7, Williams 6 (70th Nedic) — Rodrigues 6, Bateman 7, Bratkovic 6.

POLOMIA 2 (Ovcarek 56th, 85th) KU-RING-GAI 0 at Chopin Park.

POLONIA: Barcer 7 — Divani 8, Galas 7, Fogarty 7, Pratt 8 — Vanderberg 6 (Uchimewicz 68th), Lumsdaine 7, Nowak 7 — Sobczyk 8, Kowalczyk 8, Ovcarek 8.

KU-RING-GAI: Prentice 6 — Bennett 6, Jesic 7, Watson 8, Ings 6, Quigley 6, Bourke 6, Tracey 6, Williamson 6 — Bass 7 (80th Hunter), Jeffery 6 (86th G. Williamson).

YUGAL 0 AUBURN 1 (Perfitt 53rd) at Fraser Park.

YUGAL: Berry 6 — Pahor 7, Tomasic 7, Clarke 7, Marco 6 — Mihajlovic 6 (76th Coldevreid), Jesic 7, Zivkovic 5, Rodas 6 — Thredgold 4, Tanovic 6.

AUBURN: Rosado 7 — Kelly 8, Watt 7, Planinic 7, Keeke 7 — Akoutsas 7, Carney 6, Parfitt 7, Townsend 6 (O'Shane 68th) — Terry 6, Webber 8 (46th Hughes 5), Stoddart 6, Rogers 5 — Groom 5, Gray 5, Hargraves 5.

NARABEEN 2 (Rylands 51st, A. Dean 56th) SUTHERLAND 1 (Stoddart 40th) at Narabeen.

NARABEEN: P. Dean 8 — Mahoney 7, Hanley 7, Rylands 7, Collings 7 — Sarge 8, Garrett 5, Griffin 8, Bulloch 8 — A. Dean 7, Sandner.

SUTHERLAND: Dart 7 — Hesford 6, Schumann 7, Dafforno 7 — Terry 6, Webber 8 (46th Hughes 5), Stoddart 6, Rogers 5 — Groom 5, Gray 5, Hargraves 5.

BANKSTOWN 1 (Aperian 42nd) MANLY 3 (Perfitt 15th, 73rd, Jones 80th) at Jensen.

BANKSTOWN: Lohman 5 — Agostino 7, Green 7, (Hassan 57th), Blackburn 8, Ishmail 6 — Dutton 6, Kennedy 7, Paveles 7 — El Hossaini 7, Aperian 6, Parker 5.

MANLY: Conradi 7 — Scoble 6, Dick 7, Williamson 7, Pearce 6 — Jones 7, Steven 7, Leak 6 — Pan 6, Pagano 6, Sturt 7 (Vale 80th — 6).

INTER MONARO: 1 (Valeri 24th) ROCKDALE ILINDEN 0 at Marco Polo.

INTER MONARO: Horning 9, Domazetovic 8, Frances 8, Williams 8, Farrel 7, Wilson 7, Bremner 6, Valeri 6, Giampolo 6.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Smith 9, D. Dean 7, D. Wilson 7, Pivovski 6, G. Wilson 7 — Nastevski 6, Slavesci 6, Jones 6, Trajanovski 7, Ristevski 8 (80th) Brown 5, Karanfilovski 8.

INTER ALMOST THERE



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

Inter Monaro is a point away from becoming the new State League champion. Following its narrow 1-0 victory over Rockdale Ilinden at Marco Polo, Inter Monaro goes into the last two rounds needing only one point to secure the title.

Rockdale, the only side still in with a small chance of catching up, has to face off against Manly, who must surely start its celebrations while Walter Valeri, following his winning goal against Rockdale, now is level pegging with Ross Brown of Ilinden in the top scorers' list.

Sutherland has slipped out of serious contention and could even find itself out of the top four despite its four point advantage at present. Auburn has a game in hand, but would have to defeat Polonia to come within two points of Sutherland with two rounds to go.

For Polonia, Ku-Ring-Gai and Auburn the season is as good as over. They have nothing to lose and very little to gain.

At the lower reaches of the table it appears that Canterbury is safe, Narabeen also looks safe. Yugal has to get a point from its three remaining matches against Manly, Sutherland and Ku-Ring-Gai to slip to two points above Bankstown.

For last-placed Bankstown, times are grim, as Auburn and Auburn stand in its way to survival. Neither Auburn nor Auburn are keen to lose and Bankstown will have to work hard but I doubt very much that Bankstown will miss the drop.

Inter Monaro 1
Rockdale 0

Scorer: Valeri 24th
Venue: Marco Polo

In an evenly contested match, Inter Monaro took the points with the opportunism of Walter Valeri being the deciding factor.

Inter had a strong breeze at its back during the opening period, but were unable to make inroads against a very firm Ilinden defence. Then came an unfortunate error by the visitors, allowing Valeri to nip in and score.

Billy Pilovski attempted to head back to his keeper but his

header fell short of David Smith. Despite the header, Smith appeared to be close to the ball and ready to pick it up. However, in a split second, and Valeri was like a flash pushing the ball into the net to give Inter the lead.

Despite this goal Inter Monaro had to contend with a furious fightback by Rockdale during the second period and with Ambrosino and Santolin missing in its line-up anything was possible.

But Monaro's defence worked exceptionally hard and made Ilinden work overtime for any of its openings. The star of Monaro's defence was Michael Hocking.

Tim Davies, one of Australia's best referees, was on hand to officiate in this match, an obvious sign of good management by the NSWSC.

Yugal 0

Auburn Uruguay 1

Scorer: Neal Perfitt 53rd
Venue: Chopin Park

Yugal is in deep trouble following its 0-1 loss to Auburn at Chopin Park. One point against Auburn almost certainly would have given Yugal yet another year in State League.

As it was, that 53rd minute goal by Neal Perfitt proved enough for Yugal. The goal seemed to take away Yugal's will to fight. Perfitt was on hand to receive a pass from Carney, and with Berry off his line, it was no surprise to see the ex-Sydney City youth player lob Berry for the only goal of the game.

Following this goal Yugal slowed down to a walk and Auburn looked by far the better team. Tommy Mihajlovic, recently returned from Yugoslavia, failed to add much to Yugal's effort with Chris Thannides having a shocker up front. Without the injured David Forster, Yugal was further troubled.

Billy Pilovski attempted to head back to his keeper but his

header was a well-



Gary Sandtner of Narabeen shields the ball from Sutherland's Hesford last Saturday. Narabeen won 2-1. Picture by ALEX VESIC. 1

come return to the winning circle.

Polonia 2

Ku-Ring-Gai 0

Scorer: Ovcarek 56th, 85th
Venue: Chopin Park

Henjek Ovcarek, the man who almost left Polonia and was trialling with Auburn, returned to his old club recently and was the star of his side.

Scott Lumsdaine provided the spade work for Ovcarek in the 56th as his cross eluded Ku-Ring-Gai's defence to see Ovcarek score. Following this goal Ku-Ring-Gai seemed to dominate, even though with Bertram's absence very noticeable at the back despite a fine effort by Watson to hold this line together.

With five minute remaining, Ovcarek showed speed in beating Bennett to reach a through ball before lobbing Perfitt for his second goal.

Narabeen 2

Sutherland 1

Scorer: Stoddart 40th, Rylands 51st, Dean 60th

Two great headers from Narabeen during the start of the second half decided the

issue at Narabeen Sports Centre, but the home side let Sutherland off the hook despite its win.

Johnny Stoddart was the scorer from a free kick in the 40th minute, driving his left footer wide of Peter Dean.

Sutherland lost Jimmy Webber through injury and brought on Steve Hughes for the second half. Without Webber, its driving force in midfield, Sutherland lapsed. There was no stopping Kenny Sorge and Greg Griffin in midfield and with a little more help from John Garrett, Narabeen might have been in complete command.

A corner kick by Billy Bullock in the 51st saw Rylands score with a diving header, then five minutes later another corner kick by Bullock saw Allan Dean get up high to nod the ball past Dart for the win.

A strong kick by Billy Bullock in the 51st saw Rylands score with a diving header,

then five minutes later another corner kick by Bullock saw Allan Dean get up high to nod the ball past Dart for the win.

Bankstown National in this do-or-die match at Jensen. After falling a goal behind from a Bobby Pagano shot in the 15th, Bankstown came back to equalise with three minutes left in the half.

Pagano's goal had a stroke of luck in it. Pagano's intention was to cross into the middle, but the ball sailed over the head of Lohman, thanks to the strong wind and carried over the line. With three minutes left in the half, Billy Green found El Hossaini and following a quick flick by Hossaini in came Apenian to push it past Conradi.

Bankstown continued to play well during the second period and looked to take at least a point until Pagano came in for a second. A cross by Steven eluded Lohman and Pagano walked it over the line for number two. With 10 minutes remaining, a through ball by Simon Pane and a fumble by Lohman, allowed Roy Jones to tuck it away and secure the points for Masnay.

Canterbury 0
Avala 3

Scorer: 21' Milne, 66' Budini, 68' Bratkovic.

Nikola Duvnjak, an ex-Yugoslav youth international, was the star of the show as Avala subdued a lack-lustre Canterbury at Arlington Oval.

Duvnjak's skills baffled Canterbury from the opening whistle. With pin-point accuracy he distributed to create some easy openings for his team mates but to no avail, with Richie Williams the main culprit.

However, a Williams cross was tucked away by Gary Milne in the 21st and from then on it was just a matter of by how many.

Ricky Budini scored his sixth goal of the season to put the side beyond doubt in the 66th minute. Duvnjak took a free kick, and Budini trapped close to the line before blasting his shot past Konitsis.

Two minutes later, Mick Bratkovic was the recipient of yet another brilliant pass by Duvnjak before shooting it wide of the post. His first shot rebounded off a defender for Bratkovic to pick up and round an opponent then slot his shot wide of the keeper.

MORE SOCCER MORE OFTEN MORE ACTION MORE OFTEN

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5.30 Saturday World Soccer.
7.30 Sunday N.S.L. Match of the Day.
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SCORES, LADDERS

Victoria

STATE LEAGUE

Frankston Pines 3 Box Hill 2, Reserves	1-2; Bradford 3, Albion 2, Reserves
Box Hill 2, Maribyrnong 4, 1-10; Marwell	Falcons 4 St Albans 0-0; Cranley City
0 Knox City 1, 2-5; Ringwood City 0	0 Knox City 1, 2-5; Ringwood City 0
Fawkner 0, 3-2; Werribee City 5 West-	ern Suburbs 1
METROPOLITAN	DIVISION ONE
Doncaster Rovers 1 Kew Park Rangers	0, 6-1; Altona City 1 Nth Dandenong
0-1; Bell United 0 Marpley 2, 2-4; Spring-	1, 2-0; Maribyrnong 3 5th Dandenong
valle 1, 2-0; Werribee City 1, 1-0; St. Al-	3; 3 Richmond, 0-2; Melbourne 1
thomas 2, 1-0; Altona City 0 Wer-	1, 0-2; 1

DIVISION TWO

Coburg 0 Humebridge 1, 1-1; Etch-	am 0 Kew Park 1, 0-1; Carlton City 2 Mar-
ton 1, 0-0; Dandenong City 2 Prakhan	0, 6-1; Nth Geelong 3 5th Dandenong 5, 3-
1; Sandringham 1 Ringwood Utd 0, 2-2;	3; 3 Richmond, 0-2; Melbourne 1
St. Melb. Morley 0 Werribee City 1, 1-0;	2; St. Melb. Morley 0 Werribee City 1, 1-0;
Brighton 5 Yarraville 2, 2-0; Ardeer	1; Bell United 0 Werribee City 1, 1-0;

RESERVES

Mornongton 18 4 2 8 20 22
Dandenong Utd 13 3 5 44 22 29
Carlfield City 11 7 4 48 40 29
Altona United 10 5 7 38 37 13
Ettham 10 5 7 38 37 13

Nth Geelong 10 5 7 50 40 25
St. Melb. Morley 9 5 8 32 30 21
Heide-Bunduras 5 6 11 24 42 18
Prakhan 5 6 12 43 23 15
Humebridge 2 7 12 27 53 15

Coburg 1 3 18 21 65 5
Carlfield City 1 3 18 43 16 33
Altona United 1 3 18 43 16 33
Ettham 1 3 18 43 16 33
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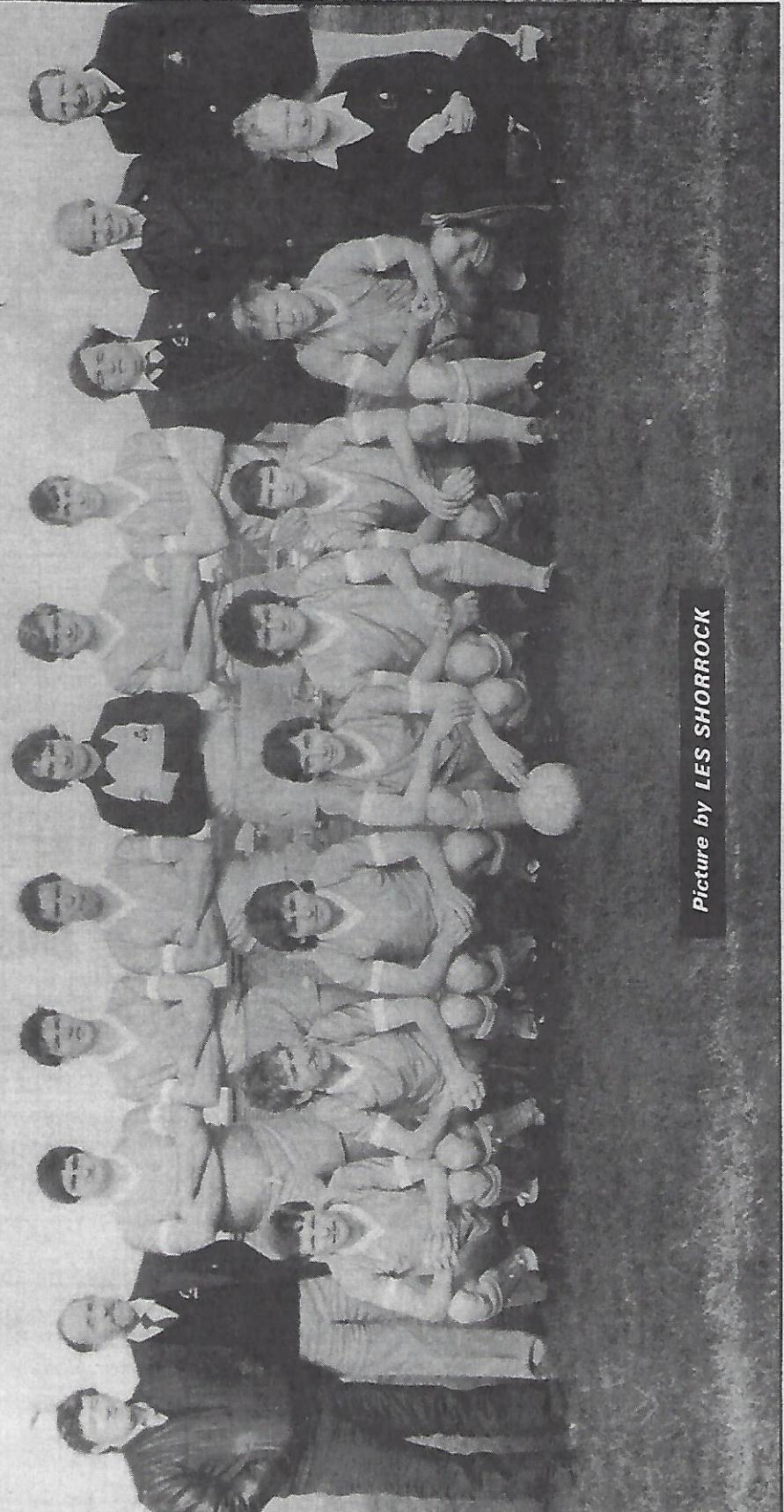
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SOCCER ACTION

Club close-up

FRANKSTON PINES



Back row:

Danny McMinnes (Coach), Alan Stirling (Vice-President), Steve Spencer, John Cummings, Peter Thurlow, Dave Stutchbury, John Cullen, Gordon Livingstone, Tommy Mitchell (Team Manager), Billy Lewis (Youth coach), Campbell Terbit (Committee),

Front row: Alec

Dick, Jimmy

Ross, Jimmy Wil-

son, Steve

Beech, Paul

Cooke, Andy

Hodgson, David

Ferris, Jimmy

Ferris (Trainer).

Picture by LES SHORROCK

Frankston Pines' roots go back to the 1960's when the club was known as The Pines Boys Soccer Club. It entered a senior team in the South of the Yarra League in 1967 and finished runner-up. Pines were District League champions in 1968 and 1972, and in 1973, their first venture into provincial League ranks, they won the championship. In 1977, Pines finished fourth in the Provisional League, clinching the 1978 Provincial League championship. Thanks to a management team of 17-year-old Easterners, Gary Pines, Michaela and Marco, Pines had a surge toward State League, continued in 1980 when they won the Third Division title. They finished second in Second Division in 1981, fourth in First Division in 1982 and their second placed finish last year took them into Santa League for the first time in their history and earned an outstanding rise in Victorian soccer.

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Can Aberdeen stay on top in Scotland?



Cammy Fraser — joined Glasgow Rangers

When Jock Wallace walked out on Rangers in 1978 for reasons still undisclosed to this day, he left behind a team which had just completed the illusive "treble" of premier division title, Scottish Cup and League Cup.

Since then the league championship — the only true symbol of success in the eyes of Rangers' supporters — has not paid the Ibrox trophy room the courtesy of a return visit.

But last Saturday fast successes and failures were forgotten as a new Scottish season spluttered into life, offering an alternative to the Olympics and throwing up the prospect of the most unpredictable title chase for some time.

Can Wallace work another miracle with Rangers just eight months into his second term as manager?

Will champion Aberdeen suffer from the loss of several key players, or have Dundee United or Celtic a deep enough

reservoir of young talent to throw down serious challenges?

Those four clubs must surely corner the trophy market in the 1984-85 season, with perhaps Hearts as possible outsiders to sneak through quietly and cause some damage.

Rangers begin their new campaign with a manager who is a proven winner. Within four months of succeeding John Greig last November, Wallace was back on the 'winners' rostrum', clutching the League Cup after a thrilling extra-time victory over Celtic.

Then, while most players swarmed to the sunny beaches of Europe during the summer, Wallace dragged his team by

the lapels on a gruelling world tour which was costly in terms of manpower but indispensable in terms of player-manager communication.

Bobby Williamson and Colin McAdam both suffered broken legs in Australia and will miss the early part of the season but Wallace says: "There was the best thing that ever happened to the club. The team spirit which the players were able to develop will be invaluable in the coming months."

Iain Ferguson of Dundee, one of Scotland's most exciting young strikers, has moved to Ibrox for 200,000 pounds, along with his hard-working midfield team-mate, Cammy Fraser.

Those two players could well be the vital cogs needed to stop the machine from malfunctioning any longer.

Aberdeen, under the astute leadership of Alex Ferguson, won its second Premier title in four season and a third Scot-

tish Cup in a row last year — but can the success story continue?

Midfielder Gordon Strachan has gone to Manchester United, Hamburg has claimed striker Mark McGhee and a third international player, defender Doug Rougvie, will be playing in China this season.

Mirren striker Frank McDougall will be McGhee's 100,000 pounds (about \$150,000) replacement while Ferguson had to fork out just 40,000 pounds (about \$64,000) to sign Clyde's Tommy McQueen to step into Rougvie's shoes. Ferguson is under no illusion about the task ahead.

He admits: "We have been forced to rebuild. It's a case of starting all over again but I'm confident that we can do it and still manage to stay at the top."

Celtic, apart from making tentative enquiries for Joe

Jordan and Aberdeen's Neale Cooper, starts the season with only one new face in Alan McInally, a 90,000 pounds (about \$143,000) buy from Ayr.

Dundee United, surprise champions two years ago, has bought Scottish International goalkeeper Billy Thomson from St Mirren to replace 36-year-old Hamish McAlpine but will other rely on an infantile home-grown talent?

Hearts, in Europe for the first time in seven years, have an inspiring leader in former Rangers player Alex McDonald to help them improve on fifth place last year, while St Mirren and Dumbarton are also managed by former Rangers men in Alex Miller and Davy Wilson.

Dumbarton, promoted along with Morton, which is under the new management of Willie McLean, seem destined for a rapid return into the first division unless Dundee or Hibernian have a particularly disastrous season.



Gordon Strachan — joined Manchester United

minime poiché dovrebbe recuperare tre punti su quattro partite per finire al secondo posto in classifica.

Il Bulleen non è andato invece oltre il pareggio per 1-1 contro il modesto Ardre, e l'East Brunswick è andato ancora peggio facendosi battere in casa dal mediocre Langwarrin.

Nella seconda divisione della Lega Provinciale, il ranger batteva in misura dal South Gippsland, si trova ancora nella zona alta della classifica e può perciò sempre ambire ad un secondo posto che assicurererebbe la promozione.

Nella terza divisione il Dallas City continua ad incamerare risultati positivi (domenica per 2-0) e con tre punti di vantaggio in classifica e solo quattro partite alla fine del campionato, può ormai considerarsi al sicuro da qualsiasi uttacco che potrebbe venire dalle poche avversarie di una certa consistenza.

Meglio che il comitato cominci a pensare per il prossimo campionato in Lega Statale.

La imprevedibile Triestina, in terza divisione, è andata a cogliere una vittoria altissima sul campo del Prahran City, anche se ormai le speranze di promozione sono ormai la più midiale della Lega Statale. La partita si giocherà a Fawkner a non doverebbe mancare di spettacolarità perché i padroni di casa faranno di essa una questione di vita o di morte.

Leghe minori

Nella prima divisione il Thameastown continua ad incamerare risultati positivi (domenica per 2-0) e con tre punti di vantaggio in classifica e solo quattro partite alla fine del campionato, può ormai considerarsi al sicuro da qualsiasi uttacco che potrebbe venire dalle poche avversarie di una certa consistenza. Meglio che il comitato cominci a pensare per il prossimo campionato in Lega Statale.

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quasi al sicuro.

Nella quarta divisione le due italiane hanno la prerogativa di guidare la classifica (Westall) e di esserne il finalista di coda (Carrum).

GOLD — THANKS TO BRISSON, XUEREB

From page one

Indeed, it was almost the match-up many soccer fans had hoped for in the 1984 World Cup, when Brazil and France were widely heralded as the most entertaining and attack-minded teams, but did not make the final, losing to Italy and West Germany, respectively.

These were different players, of course, because European and South American players with World Cup experience are the only players excluded from Olympic eligibility. These were professionals, but not the top 20 professionals from their countries.

And, given the importance of the match, they gambled less and stuck to defence more than they had in past games. But France, more persistent on the attack, got second-half goals eight minutes apart from Francois Brisson and Daniel Xuereb, both from the Club Lens in the French First Division.

"We don't realise what's happened. We're in a dream world," said the exuberant Xuereb, who finished the Olympics with five goals in six games. Asked the key to his team's success, he said: "Solidarity — from beginning to end, there were no stars but only team play."

France's gold medal and Brazil's silver were the first ever in Olympic soccer for those nations. Yugoslavia took the bronze medal, by defeating Italy on Friday night.

Three of France's stars were injured on Saturday night and did not play. The most important was the team's main source of creative initiative, the midfielder Jose Toure, out with a pulled thigh muscle. Also a star on France's national team, which won the European Nations cup in June, Toure missed that tournament because he was recovering from surgery, and he did not play again until the Olympics.

Yet Toure's place in midfield was filled admirably on Saturday night by Dominique Bujot, of the Monaco club, who kept trying to goad his team mates into attacking.

They didn't heed him until the second half. France played extremely cautiously in the first half, although the determined Bujot, elbows swinging and long hair flopping, did launch two good shots. Brazil's centre back, Pinga, headed one out of the goal mouth, the other was deflected over the line for a corner.

Although Brazil had the better opportunity in that half, the South Americans failed to convert any of their six shots. The swift left winger Lawton Silveira kept turning the French defence inside out, but each of his three powerful shots was deflected.

"I thought Brazil was much the superior team in the first half, but the French deserved to win because they played a much better offensive game in the second half," said Brazil's coach, Jair Pincen.

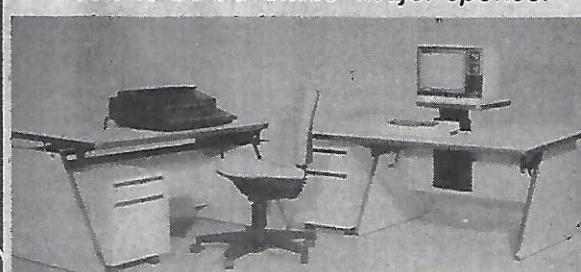
France's patience and Bujot's offensive persistence paid off in that second half, with goals in the 55th and 63rd minutes of play.

Jean-Philippe Rohr lofted a beautiful cross in front of the goal mouth, and the ball dipped just as Brisson's head rose to meet it. He was able to drive a powerful header into the upper left corner of the net.

Bujot then set up the second goal with a booming shot that the Brazilian goalkeeper Gilmar, could only parry with an extended right arm. The rebound rocketed toward defender, Pinga, and both Xuereb and Jean-Louis Zanon were converging on him. From the left side of the penalty area, Xuereb got his right foot on

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FORZA JUVE!



TOP SOCCER THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Aug 18 & 19



NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Gary Cole
Preston

BRISBANE LIONS v PRESTON

Richlands 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Brisbane Lions 1 win

Preston 3 wins, 2 draws

CANBERRA v FOOTSCRAY

Bruce Stadium 3 pm Saturday

FOOTSCRAY v CANBERRA

Schintler Reserve 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL Results

Canberra 5 wins

Footscray 5 wins, 4 draws



Tommy Sermannini
Canberra



Oscar Crino
South Melbourne

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v SOUTH MELBOURNE

Chaplin Reserve 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

George Cross 1 win

HEIDELBERG v GREEN GULLY

Olympic Village 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL Results

1 draw



Steve Winn
Heidelberg



Paul Shillibeer
Adelaide City

JUVENTUS v ADELAIDE CITY

Olympic Park No 2 3pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Adelaide City 1 win

WEST ADELAIDE v MELBOURNE CROATIA

Hindmarsh 2.30 pm Sunday

Previous NSL result

1 draw



Peter Lewis
Melbourne Croatia

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE



Brett Thornthwaite
Blacktown

BLACKTOWN v SYDNEY CROATIA

Gabbie Stadium 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Blacktown 1 win

MARCONI v PENRITH CITY

Marconi Stadium 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Marconi 2 wins



Tony Henderson
Marconi



Mike O'Shea
St George

NEWCASTLE v ST GEORGE

Adamstown Oval 2.30 pm Saturday

Previous NSL results

Newcastle 4 wins

St George 1 win, 1 draw

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v BRISBANE CITY

Pratten Park 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Sydney Olympic 4 wins

Brisbane City 6 wins 2 draws



Tony Dakos
Sydney Olympic



Jean-Paul Marigny
Sydney City

SYDNEY CITY v LEICHARDT

Sydney Athletic Field 3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

Sydney City 6 wins

Leichhardt 3 wins, 2 draws

WOLLONGONG v MELITA EAGLES

Wollongong Showgrounds
3 pm Sunday

Previous NSL results

1 draw



Ken Wilson
Melita Eagles